



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/662,495	09/15/2003	John W. Chamberlain	0112300-768	9203
29159	7590	02/08/2005	EXAMINER	
BELL, BOYD & LLOYD LLC P. O. BOX 1135 CHICAGO, IL 60690-1135			NGUYEN, BINH AN DUC	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3713	

DATE MAILED: 02/08/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>
	10/662,495	CHAMBERLAIN ET AL.
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>
	Binh-An D. Nguyen	3713

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### **Status**

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 May 2003.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**.                            2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### **Disposition of Claims**

- 4) Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application:
  - 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### **Application Papers**

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### **Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
    1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### **Attachment(s)**

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6/14/04.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. The Preliminary Amendment filed May 18, 2004 has been received. According to the Amendment, Figures 9-11 replaced the original Figures 9 and 10. Acknowledgment has been made.

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

On page 13, line 15, the recited term "vacuum florescent display" should be changed to "vacuum fluorescent display."

Appropriate correction is required.

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Art Unit: 3713

5. Claims 1-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Rowe (2002/0002075).

Rowe teaches a system and method for electronically transferring funds comprising: a gaming device (102, 20) having a ticket reader and a processor operable with the ticket reader (paragraphs 11, 125-128); a kiosk having a controller communicating via at least one network with a remote fund repository; and a ticket having an electronic fund transfer approved by the remote fund repository, the ticket issued by a ticket printer having identification information readable by the ticket reader; network operating with the (game machine) controller links a plurality of electronic fund transfer kiosks; the network operating with the controller links a plurality of remote fund repositories (via financial server (120); a plurality of gaming devices, each gaming device including one of the ticket readers; each of the gaming devices is located proximate or remote to the electronic fund transfer kiosk (provided in casino, paragraph 192); at least two of the gaming devices are different types of gaming devices (paragraphs 125, 126, 190); ticket validation network is local within a gaming establishment (paragraph 184); the ticket validation network is a fiber-optic network (paragraph 135); an operator interface device that operates with the ticket validation network to verify the ticket (service center, i.e., cashier booths) (paragraph 141); the card reader accepting at least one card selected from the group consisting of: a credit card, a debit card, a gaming establishment card and any combination thereof (paragraph 128); the kiosk comprising a controller that communicates over at least one network with a remote fund repository, a display operable with the controller to display

electronic fund transfer information to a person, an input device operable with the controller to enable the person to enter electronic fund transfer information, wherein the ticket includes an approved electronic fund transfer and identification information readable by the remote gaming device; and a housing that supports the controller, display, input device and ticket printer; wherein the input device includes a multi-button keypad (paragraphs 15, 140, 154, 157, 192 ); the network is a wide area network; the identification information includes a bar code (paragraph 128); transmitting electronically a fund request from an electronic fund transfer kiosk to a remote fund repository; receiving, at the electronic fund transfer kiosk, a response from the remote fund repository; and printing a ticket having an approved electronic fund transfer if the response is an approval and enabling the ticket to be inserted into the gaming device and used to provide at least one gaming device credit (paragraph 165); providing at least one gaming device credit; providing account information if the response is a rejection (paragraph 71); transmitting the fund request includes transmitting the request over an internet (paragraphs 21, 39, 178)..

Note, the limitations of (game machine processor) operable to communicate with a ticket validation network (for validating ticket) (claims 10, 23); an electronic fund transfer kiosk having a ticket printer (for printing ticket) and a controller that operates with the ticket printer, the ticket printer operable with the controller to issue the ticket (claims 1, 10, and 21); a receipt printer operable with the controller to provide a receipt to the person confirming an amount of the approved electronic fund transfer (claim 7) are inherent from Rowe's teaching of using kiosk (linking with game machines and

financial hosts (Fig. 2)) to engage in financial and reward transactions wherein such transactions include providing and/or obtaining access media (i.e., tickets, card, chips, etc.) (paragraphs 56, 135, 165), and obtaining printed receipt (paragraph 93).

Rowe further teaches a printer for printing ticket; a display; and input device. Rowe does not explicitly teach the ticket printer is a thermal printer (claim 3); the display includes a vacuum fluorescent display (claim 4); the input device includes a touch screen operable with the display (claim 5), these limitations, however, are design choices since they do not bring unexpected results.

Furthermore, Rowe teaches access media (i.e., ticket, card, etc.) (paragraphs 18, 53, 56) could be used to obtain cash from ATM kiosk (paragraphs 90, 91, 176). Regarding the limitation of a ticket printed by the remote gaming device (claim 6), this limitation has been admitted by the applicants as prior art (specification, page 3, lines 22-26).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the system for electronically transferring fund of Rowe, utilizing well known art, to enhance user friendly interface and provide more conveniences to user in a cashless gaming system thus attract more game players and increase profit.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Binh-An D. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-4440. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Xuan Thai can be reached on 571-272-7147. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

BN



XUAN M. THAI  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

AN3713